

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 AID-05 OMB-01 /079 W

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O R 040737Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2290

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE

USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1495

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 9210

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, BG

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF PAKISTAN-BANGLADESH

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

1. IN MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR THIS MORNING, FOREIGN
SECRETARY AGHA SHAHI CONFIRMED PAK-BANGLADESH DECISION
TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ANNOUNCED IN NEW YORK
BY PAK MIN OF STATE AZIZ AHMED AND BANGLADESH FONMIN
ABU SAYEED CHAUDHURY A FEW HOURS EARLIER. SHAHI SAID
ORIGINAL INTENT HAD BEEN TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENT SIMULTANEOUSLY
IN NEW YORK, ISLAMABAD, AND DACCA. THERE HAD APPARENTLY
BEEN COMMUNICATION FOUL-UP. HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED
TEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT. (ASSUME USUN WILL BE SENDING IT
TO US AND OTHER POSTS.)

2. SHAHI SAID THAT DECISION HAD FOLLOWED SERIES OF
NEW YORK MEETINGS BETWEEN AZIZ AHMED AND CHAUDHURY AND SECRET
VISIT TO ISLAMABAD OF BANGLADESH POLITICAL LEADER WHO
HAD CLAIMED TO BE ENVOY OF PRESIDENT MUSHTAQ. ACCORDING
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TO SHAHI, ENVOY HAD SUBMITTED THREE PROPOSALS TO GOP.

THESE RELATED TO (A) ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS,
(B) RESUMPTION OF TRADE RELATIONS, AND (C) REPATRIATION
OF BIHARIS ON A SELECTIVE BASIS. GOP HAD NEVER BEEN SURE
OF BONA FIDES OF ENVOY'S CREDENTIALS.

3. SHAHI ALSO STATED THAT GOP HOPED TO EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS WITH BANGLADESH PROMPTLY. (MFA OFFICIAL IN CHARGE BANGLADESH TELLS US THAT SEARCH IS ON; HE NOTES THAT EARLIER "AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE" MAHMOOD HAROON, WEALTHY KARACHI BUSINESSMAN AND FRIEND AND FINANCIAL ANGEL OF MUJIB IN SIXTIES, IS NOW OBVIOUSLY OUT OF THE RUNNING GIVEN CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES IN DACCA.) MENTIONING STORY WHICH APPEARED IN KARACHI PAPER RECENTLY REPORTING POSSIBILITY OF CONFEDERATION BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH, WHICH HE SAID HAD PROMPTED ANGRY DEMARCHE FROM SOVIET AMBASSADOR, SHAHI STATED THAT HE THOUGHT THERE NO POSSIBILITY OF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT.

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